

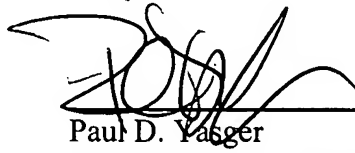
Remarks:

Claims 22-45 have been canceled. Upon entry of this amendment claims 46-59 will be pending.

Applicants believe the claims are in condition for allowance and therefore request such action. Additionally, applicants are requesting a check on the status of this case.

Customer No. 23492
ABBOTT LABORATORIES
Telephone: (847) 938-3508
Facsimile: (847) 938-2623

Respectfully submitted,
Y. Qui et al.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul D. Yager', is written over a horizontal line.

Paul D. Yager
Registration No. 37,477
Attorney for Applicants